

c2 2. (twice amended) The system of claim 1, wherein said base station receives information encoded on said reverse channel signal and wherein each remote station receives information encoded on said forward channel signal.

c3 6. (twice amended) The system of claim 5, wherein each remote station is assigned a unique remote station address and wherein each remote station accepts information encoded on said forward channel signal when said address of said forward channel signal matches said assigned unique remote station address.

12. (once amended) The system of claim 5, wherein one remote station is assigned a first remote station address from a first set of addresses and a second remote station is assigned a second remote station address from a second set of addresses.

c4 13. (once amended) The system of claim 12, wherein said first set of addresses form a first zone and said second set of addresses form a second zone.

14. (once amended) The system of claim 5, wherein each remote station is assigned a remote station address from a set of addresses and said set of addresses form an Internet sub-network.

15. (once amended) The system of claim 1, wherein said assigned period of time is a predetermined dwell time and wherein each of said remote stations monitor said clear assessment channel interval during said predetermined dwell time.

c5 17. (once amended) The system of claim 15, wherein each remote station is dynamically assigned a dwell time.

18. (once amended) The system of claim 17, wherein said dwell times are assigned to said plurality of remote stations in a round robin fashion.

c6 30. (twice amended) The system of claim 1, wherein said base station synchronizes with a portion of said plurality of remote stations.

32. (once amended) A method for a single-point to a fixed multi-point system having a base station and a plurality of remote stations, the method comprising the step of:

c7 transmitting from the base station a forward channel signal;
monitoring for said forward channel signal at each of the plurality of remote stations; and
monitoring a reverse channel at each of the plurality of remote stations, wherein each of the plurality of remote stations monitors said reverse channel within an assigned period of time in a clear channel assessment interval, wherein said clear channel assessment interval is

partitioned into periods of time and each of said periods of time is assigned to one of said plurality of remote stations,

C7 if said reverse channel is clear during said assigned period of time associated with one of the plurality of remote stations and said one of the plurality remote stations has information to send to the base station, transmitting a reverse channel signal from said one of the plurality of remote stations.

C8 35. (once amended) The method of claim 34, wherein said step of assigning unique remote addresses is done a priori.

C9 39. (once amended) The method of claim 38, wherein said first set of addresses form a first zone and said second set of addresses form a second zone.

C10 42. (once amended) The method of claim 32, wherein each assigned period of time is a predetermined dwell time.

C11 55. (once amended) A single-point to a fixed multi-point system, comprising:
a base station for transmitting a forward channel signal; and
a plurality of remote stations, each remote station monitoring said forward channel signal, monitoring a reverse channel within an assigned dwell time in a clear channel assessment interval, and transmitting a reverse channel signal after detecting that said reverse channel is clear, wherein said clear channel assessment interval is partitioned into dwell times, each dwell time assigned to one of said plurality of remote stations, said forward channel signal provided during a predetermined forward channel interval, and said reverse channel signal provided during a predetermined reverse channel interval.

57. (once amended) The system of claim 56, wherein each remote station has a unique remote station address and each remote station accepts said data information when said address information matches said unique address.

C12 58. (once amended) The system of claim 56, wherein one remote station has a first remote station address from a first set of addresses and a second remote station has a second remote station address from a second set of addresses.

59. (once amended) The system of claim 58, wherein said first set of addresses form a first zone and said second set of addresses forms a second zone.

C13 64. The system of claim 55, further including guard times among said forward channel interval, said reverse channel interval, and said clear channel assessment interval.

68. (once amended) A method of communicating with a station, comprising the steps of:

monitoring a forward channel;

44 monitoring a reverse channel within an assigned predetermined dwell time within a clear channel assessment interval, wherein said clear channel assessment interval is partitioned into a number of dwell times, each dwell time assigned to one of a number of remote stations, said number of dwell times being equal to said number of remote stations; and

transmitting a reverse channel signal after detecting that said reverse channel is clear during said predetermined dwell time, wherein said forward channel signal is provided during a predetermined forward channel interval and said reverse channel signal is provided during a predetermined reverse channel interval.

69. (once amended) A station comprising:

C15 a monitor for monitoring a forward channel signal and monitoring a reverse channel within a clear channel assessment interval, wherein said clear channel assessment interval is partitioned into at least two dwell times, one of said dwell times is assigned to said station with a remainder of said dwell times assigned to other stations, said monitor monitoring said reverse channel only within said dwell time assigned to said station; and

a transmitter for transmitting a reverse channel signal after said monitor detects that said reverse channel is clear during said dwell time, wherein said forward channel signal is provided during a predetermined forward channel interval and said reverse channel signal is provided during a predetermined reverse channel interval.

76. (once amended) A base station comprising:

a transmitter for transmitting a forward channel signal; and

C16 a receiver for receiving a reverse channel signal from one of a number of remote stations after said remote station detects that a reverse channel is clear during a dwell time assigned to said remote station in a clear channel assessment interval, wherein said clear channel assessment interval is partitioned into a number of dwell times, said number of dwell times equal to said number of remote stations, each dwell time assigned to one remote station, said forward channel signal provided during a predetermined forward channel interval, said reverse channel signal provided during a predetermined reverse channel interval, and said clear channel assessment interval occupies a time between said forward and reverse channel intervals.